

Statement

Thirty-eight proposals under the Coastal Regulation Zone and Forty-one proposals under the Forest (Conservation) Act were pending for clearance as on 31.10.98. The State-wise breakup is as under:

State/Union Territory	Number of Pending Projects	
	Under Coastal Regulation Zone	Under Forest Conservation Act
1. A & N Islands	3	-
2. Andhra Pradesh	4	3
3. Bihar	-	2
4. Daman & Diu	1	-
5. Goa	5	-
6. Gujarat	3	2
7. Himachal Pradesh	-	3
8. Karnataka	6	3
9. Kerala	2	-
10. Madhya Pradesh	-	11
11. Maharashtra	8	4
12. Meghalaya	-	1
13. Orissa	1	4
14. Rajasthan	-	4
15. Sikkim	-	1
16. Tamil Nadu	4	-
17. Uttar Pradesh	-	3
18. West Bengal	1	-
Total	38	41

Out of these, three proposals have been accorded clearance under the CRZ during the month of November, 1998.

Suspension of Power Supply by NTPC to States

*113. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation suspended power supply to some SEBs/States in the month of October this year due to non payment of tariff bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total outstanding dues against each SEB/State as on October 31, 1998, State-wise;

(d) the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to recover the same;

(e) the reasons for suspending power supply to a few States whereas a large number of SEBs/States have outstanding dues;

(f) whether an advance notice for the suspension of power supply was given to SEBs/States; and

(g) if so, the facts and details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) resorted to regulation of power supply to West Bengal from Farakka Super Thermal Power Station from the midnight of 10th and 11th October, 1998 which continued till 31.10.1998.

(c) The outstanding dues of NTPC as on 31.10.1998 stood at Rs. 8883.70 crores. The details of the amount due State-wise as on 31.10.1998 are attached as statement.

(d) Many of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) have not opened Letter of Credit (LC) of adequate amount for payment of monthly bills to NTPC and therefore have been defaulting in payment of NTPC which has resulted in accumulation of arrears. The steps being taken by the Government *inter-alia* include :-

(i) Periodical reviews of the position by Ministry of Power and taking up the matter regarding payment at the highest level of the SEBs and State Governments; and

(ii) Decision of the Government of India approving direct appropriation of the recovery of the outstanding dues as on 31.12.1996 amounting to Rs. 3751.45 crores. As per this decision, the deduction in one year for any state shall not exceed 15% of its Central Plan Assistance in that year.

(e) to (g) The outstanding dues of Bihar, West Bengal, Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir as on 30.9.1998 were the highest in terms of months of average billing as indicated below :-

	State/Organisation		Months of average billing
	1	2	
1.	Bihar	-	15.1
2.	West Bengal	-	12.9

	1	2
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	12.3
4.	Orissa	11.4
5.	Delhi	10.2
6.	D.V.C.	9.1
7.	U.P.	8.9

The criteria followed by NTPC to regulate power supply to defaulting States were as follows :-

- (i) outstanding dues were among the highest in terms of months of billing; and
- (ii) current payments were below the level of current billing as reflected in the Letter of Credit opened by them.

Since J&K had the full coverage of current billing through Letter of Credit, no notice was issued to that State. Notices were issued to Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, U.P., Delhi and DVC. Letters were issued to the Chief Secretaries of West Bengal, Orissa and Bihar in this regard. Union Minister of Power had also written to Chief Ministers of Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa for liquidating outstanding dues to NTPC. Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) and Directors of NTPC held meetings with Chief Ministers of Orissa and Bihar on 24.8.1998 and 7.9.1998 respectively to discuss the problem of non payment of outstanding dues by the Eastern Region States. A meeting was also held with the Minister of Energy, Science & Technology, Government of West Bengal on 1.9.1998. NTPC issued notices to the Government of Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and DVC on 24.8.1998 for progressive closure of its Eastern Power Stations viz., Farakka, Kahalgaon and Talcher Super Thermal Power Station with effect from 1.9.1998.

A meeting was held between Union Minister of Power and Chief Minister of U.P. on 15.5.1998 when it was, *inter-alia*, agreed that the Letter of Credit will be raised to Rs. 125 crores for NTPC stations. CMD, NTPC met Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh on 5.8.1998 when the following actions were agreed :-

- (i) Enhancement of LC to Rs. 125 crores.
- (ii) Exploring transfer to Tanda TPS (440 MW) to NTPC against outstanding dues of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board.

Since the above actions were not taken by U.P. despite several discussions, NTPC issued notice to UPSES on 13.10.1998 for regulation of power supply with effect from 15.11.1998. In respect of Delhi, Delhi

Vidhyut Board has not been making full payment of current dues despite assurance given in the review meeting taken by th Prime Minister on 9.5.1997. During discussions with CMD, NTPC on 25.9.1998, Chairman, Delhi Vidhyut Board assured that as a result of the recent traiff revision, it would be possible to enhance payment level with effect from October, 1998. NTPC issued notice to Delhi Vidhyut Board on 13.10.1998 for the need to resolve the issue to avoid power regulation.

GRIDCO enhanced LC to Rs. 32 crores as committed and offered bonds worth Rs. 200 crores. Government of Bihar paid Rs. 50 crores to NTPC on 13.10.1998 and also assured that they would work out an Action Plan for payment of the balance amount of Rs. 300 crores. Bihar State Electricity Board has also paid a further amount of Rs. 20 crores on 2.11.1998. In case of U.P., the State Government enhanced LC from 84 crores to Rs. 105 crores and later to Rs. 120 crores against average billing of Rs. 131 crores. The State Government promised to enhance it further to Rs. 131 crores during November, 1998 and to Rs. 140 crores in December, 1998. Government of U.P. have also agreed 'in principle' to consider transfer of Maneri Bhali Hydro Project to NTPC against their outstanding dues.

In case of Delhi, DVB have established LC of Rs. 90 crores which is equivalent to 82% of current level of average monthly billing. Chairman, DVB has assured that current payment shall be made by DVB. In October, 1998 itself, DVB has paid additionally Rs. 13 crores over and above LC amount.

Government of West Bengal assured looking into the matter of liquidating the outstanding dues but no action was taken by West Bengal in this regard.

Further notice was issued to West Bengal/DVC on 10.10.1998 for regulating supply of power w.e.f. midnight of 11.10.1998. Later WBSEB agreed to make a down payment of Rs. 15 crores and enhance the LC from Rs. 15 crores to Rs. 20 crores against monthly billing of Rs. 42 crores. The liquidation plan for arrears of WBSEB envisages payment @ Rs. 5 crores per month through Letter of Credit against the total outstanding dues of Rs. 729.11 crores. DVC agreed to enhance the LC from Rs. 11 crores to Rs. 15 crores only against monthly billing of Rs. 22 crores. DVC also agreed to pay NTPC amounts due to be received by them through Central Appropriation in respect of Bihar and West Bengal. As a gesture of good will, NTPC resumed power supply to West Bengal w.e.f. 1.11.1998.

Statement

[English]

NTPC outstanding dues as on 31st October, 1998

(Rupees in crores)

STPS/SEB	Outstanding As on Date	Surcharge Billed	Total Outstand- ing
Bihar SEB	892.10	491.17	1383.27
West Bengal SEB	550.89	178.22	729.11
Jammu & Kashmir	220.30	279.06	479.36
GRIDCO	444.04	68.74	512.78
Delhi Vidyut Board	1195.60	544.33	1739.93
Uttar Pradesh SEB	1164.82	620.79	1785.61
Damodar Valley Corporation	222.58	145.93	368.51
Assam SEB	29.33	1.08	30.41
Andhra Pradesh SEB	166.57	70.68	237.25
Himachal Pradesh SEB	5.08	9.10	14.18
Madhya Pradesh SEB	235.91	210.83	446.74
Gujarat EB	172.43	96.76	269.19
Karnataka EB	53.53	33.56	87.09
Maharashtra SEB	165.99	89.53	255.52
Pondicherry	8.33	0.85	9.18
Kerala SEB	28.55	22.49	51.04
Goa (WR)	8.68	1.59	10.27
Goa (SR)	3.51	0.54	4.05
Tamil Nadu EB	30.93	64.75	95.68
Haryana Vidyut Prasaran Nigam	21.12	228.19	249.31
Punjab SEB	17.92	7.67	25.59
Rajasthan SEB	17.50	56.15	73.85
Daman & Diu	0.92	0.95	1.87
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.22	0.00	0.22
Union Territory of Chandigarh	-0.43	0.00	-0.43

Abbreviations :

STPS	: Super Thermal Power Station
SEBs	: State Electricity Boards
EB	: Electricity Board
GRIDCO	: Grid Corporation of Orissa Limited
WR	: Western Region
SR	: Southern Region

Hunting in J & K

*114. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Where Govt. gives licence to Kill" appearing in the 'Tribune', dated August 4, 1998;

(b) whether hunting of the endangered species is legally allowed in different States like Jammu and Kashmir as a royal sport and licences are issued for 'small games', 'big games' and 'special games';

(c) if so, the facts of the matter;

(d) whether the banned Shahtoos trade is also allowed in J&K under licence;

(e) if so, whether Government have laid down any national policy to protect the endangered species and for prevention of cruelty to animals; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Hunting of animals included in Scheduled II, III & IV under Jammu & Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1978 is allowed in Jammu & Kashmir under licences issued by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) and (f) Trade of wild animals is regulated through the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972, which extends to all the States/UTs except J & K. Prevention of cruelty to animals is regulated through the provisions of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 which extends to all the States/UTs except J & K.

Status of IPP Power Stations

*115. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the IPP stations sanctioned by the previous Government;

(b) whether any of these stations have since started production as on date; and

(c) the total expected quantum of power generation likely to be achieved by these power stations by the year 2000?